

Question 1: which services are most likely to drive take up of DTT consumer reception equipment using new technologies? In particular, are HD services the most likely to do so?:

Yes, HD services will be the main driver.

Question 2: do you agree with Ofcom's assessment that it would be beneficial for the DTT platform to begin to upgrade to new technologies ? DVB-T2 and MPEG-4 - to make more efficient use of spectrum and to allow for the introduction of new services?:

Yes, but it will have to be gradual to give people time to upgrade their existing set top boxes and new tv's with built in DTT receivers

Question 3: Ofcom is particularly interested in hearing from multiplex operators and programme providers as to whether they are interested in using DVB-T2 and / or MPEG-4, and whether Ofcom should consider permitting their use on DTT?:

Ofcom should listen to both the broadcasters and the viewers over this

Question 4: do you agree that the earliest possible availability and adoption of the technologies is in the interests of consumers and citizens?:

No that's why we have ended up with steam age MPEG2 for most forms of digital broadcasting

Question 5: do you agree with Ofcom's view that DVB-T2 MPEG-4 reception equipment could be commercially available in time for DSO in Granada region in late 2009?:

YES

Question 6: do you agree that some form of intervention is required in order for the DTT platform to commence an upgrade to new technologies without delay?:

Yes as long as it is done sensitively taking all views from broadcasters and viewers

Question 7: Do you have any proposals for launching MPEG-4 services on a DTT multiplex using DVB-T in advance of the proposed 2009 timetable and if so can you provide details of how such a service would not undermine the proposed MPEG-4/DVB-T2 launch in 2009?:

No, I think most members of the public are going to have enough to cope with with DSO.

Question 8: do you agree with Ofcom's proposed approach for adding SD and HD versions of MPEG-4 and DVB-T2 profiles to the list of permitted standards for DTT in the spring, and that Ofcom's consent must be sought prior to adoption of these standards?:

Yes

Question 9: do you agree with Ofcom's proposal that Multiplex B should be cleared and upgraded to new technologies?:

Yes so all the BBC services will be on multiplex 1..

Question 10: do you agree with Ofcom's proposal that all multiplexes should be required to upgrade to 64QAM at DSO in order to make the most efficient use of spectrum (ie that the mode change should not merely be optional)?:

having seen the problems with 64QAM in the early days of DTT, I saw first hand the improved service that 16QAM provided. So I hope we are not going back to poor freezing pictures again. Why not keep the main multiplexes at 16QAM and the rest at 64QAM. This together with the higher transmitted power will guarantee good coverage of the UK.

Question 11: do you agree with our proposals for accommodating Five, S4C, TG4 and GDS on Multiplex 2?:

I suppose so, if you go back to using 64QAM instead of the 16QAM as used at present. I hope that the higher powers used for DTT after analogue switchover will make 64QAM more robust.

Question 12: do you agree with our assessment that nine SD services can operate on Multiplex 2? If not, do you have an alternative proposal?:

I suppose so if it does not cause any degradation of the signal in any way.

Question 13: do you agree with our proposals for the reorganisation process for the existing multiplex services set out in the central case scenario?:

On the whole yes

Question 14: do you agree with the principles / conditions that Ofcom proposes to use to evaluate counterproposals for the reorganisation process?:

Yes as long as OFCOM listens to all sides

Question 15: Do you have an alternative proposal for the reorganisation process? If yes, please provide details.:

Yes. Do not sell off any of the existing UHF tv spectrum, this is sheer madness. Keeping all of the existing frequencies will mean greater choice of DTT channels for viewers served by relay stations and make it far easier for the introduction of HD services across the country. There are already vast areas of the spectrum which are underused, and could easily accomodate any new mobile or PMR services.

Question 16: do you agree with Ofcom's assessment of the options for allocating the upgraded capacity?:

No. For reasons see answer to Q15

Question 17: do you agree with the proposal that HD broadcasting on the DTT platform should use the more efficient progressive format, rather than the interlaced format?:

No. For reasons see answer to Q15

Question 18: do you agree with the proposal that Ofcom should not mandate the use of the capacity for any particular service type (SD or HD) but allow the broadcasters to make proposals?:

Yes

Question 19: do you agree with the proposal that the capacity should be allocated in three UK-wide blocks initially, rising to four blocks at DSO?:

Yes

Question 20: do you agree with the proposed criteria for the comparative selection process?:

No

Question 21: do you have any comments on Ofcom's proposals for the upgraded multiplex?:

I hope that the extra channels will be free to air and not more pay as you go channels

Question 22: Do you agree with Ofcom's impact assessment?:

Some of it

Question 23: Do you agree with Ofcom's assessment of the potential benefits, risks and mitigations strategies relating to the impact of these proposals on the DSO programme?:

Some of them

Additional comments:

I hope that OFCOM come to your senses and back off from selling off any of the existing UHF Tv spectrum for non broadcast use. If they do they could well handicap this country for many years to come and put it way behind the development of our European neighbors. For eg whilst our friends across Europe will be adding new technologies and HD services with ease we will end up trying to squeeze any new services in with our existing services on fewer and more crowded UHF TV channels.